

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if several names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

DISTRIBUTED CLUMPING OF PART-LENGTH RODS FOR A REACTOR FUEL BUNDLE, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119 (a)-(d) or (f) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below, and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY NOT CLAIMED	CERTIFIED COPY ATTACHED
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

U.S. PARENT APPLICATION OR PCT PARENT NUMBER	PARENT FILING DATE (day, month, year)	STATUS (patent and number, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

APPLICATION NUMBER(S)	FILING DATE (day, month, year)

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint Gary D. Yacura (Reg. No. 35,416), Matthew J. Lattig (Reg. No. 45,274), Henry J. Policinski, (Reg. No. 26,621), Michael Gnibus (Reg. No. 38,162), Scott Hayden (Reg. No. 41,821), James W. Mitchell (Reg. No. 25,602), Frank A. Landgraff (Reg. No. 36,853) and James E. McGinness (Reg. No. 33,260), jointly, and each of them severally, my/our attorney(s) or agents(s), with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls in connection with this application be addressed to Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., Customer No. **33727**, at Phone No. 703/390-3030; Fax No. 703/390-3020.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, statements were made with the knowledge that willfully false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001 and that all such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: Lukas Trozman Date: 12/11/03
Lukas Trozman

Residence: 214 Borden Avenue, Wilmington, North Carolina 28403

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: Cary Z. Ky Date: Dec. 11, 2003
Cary Z. Ky
Cary D. Kunz

Residence: 7946 Grenezay Road, Wilmington, North Carolina 28411

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: Russell E. Stachowski
Russell E. Stachowski

Date: DEC. 11, 2003

Residence: 4901 Brownlow Circle, Wilmington, North Carolina 28409

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: Russell M. Fawcett
Russell M. Fawcett

Date: DEC. 11, 2003

Residence: 505 Rooks Road, Atkinson, North Carolina 28421

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
Shingo Fujimaki

Residence: 2-1, Konan 1-Chome, Konan-Ku, Yokohama-Shi, Japan

Citizenship: Japan

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
Daisuke Goto

Residence: 115, Ueki, Kamakura-shi, Japan, 247-0073

Citizenship: Japan

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

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I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

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Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
Lukas Trozman

Residence: 214 Borden Avenue, Wilmington, North Carolina 28403

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
Cary L. Kunz

Residence: 7946 Grenzay Road, Wilmington, North Carolina 28411

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
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Residence: 4901 Brownlow Circle, Wilmington, North Carolina 28409

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: _____ Date: _____
Russell M. Fawcett

Residence: 505 Rooks Road, Atkinson, North Carolina 28421

Citizenship: United States of America

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: Shingo Fujimaki Date: Dec. 12, 2003
Shingo Fujimaki

Residence: 2-1, Konan 1-Chome, Konan-Ku, Yokohama-Shi, Japan

Citizenship: Japan

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

Full name of sole or first joint inventor:

Inventor's signature: Daisuke Goto Date: Dec. 12, 2003
Daisuke Goto

Residence: 115, Ueki, Kamakura-shi, Japan, 247-0073

Citizenship: Japan

Post Office Address: Same as Residence